members are vacant. In Bihar, 5 posts of Chairman/Members are vacant in the 9 District Consumer Fora set up during last two years.

Statement

State/UT	Number of District Fora	Pending Cases	At the End of
Andhra Pradesh	23	12937	9/96
Arunachal Pradesh	12	34	10/96
Assam	23	826	4/96
Bihar	55	10503	10/96
Goa	2	593	10/96
Gujarat	20	16148	9/96
Haryana	16	10149	9/96
Himachal Pradesh	12	1077	9/96
Jammu & Kashmir	2	1045	8/96
Karnataka	20	11419	8/96
Kerala	14	5033	10/96
Madhya Pradesh	45	11510	12/95
Maharashtra	31	17040	9/96
Manipur	8	10	9/96
Meghalaya	7	38	6/96
Mizoram	3	12	11/96
Nagaland	7	7	9/94
Orissa	31	2065	9/96
Punjab	13	3039	9/96
Rajasthan	32	10618	9/96
Sikkim	4	7	10/96
Tamil Nadu	24	5008	9/96
Tripura	3	81	9/96
Uttar Pradesh	72	49821	8/96
West Bengal	19	15006	9/96
Andaman & Nicobar	2	12	9/96
Chandigarh	1	3527	6/96
D & N Haveli	1	10	8/96
Daman & Diu	2	16	9/96
Delhi	2	9710	10/96
Lakshadweep	1	2	11/96
Pondicherry	1	72	11/96
TOTAL	508	197375	

Foodgrains supplied to Punjab for Border Areas

872. SHRI MOHINDAR SINGH KALYAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the foodgrains and the quantity thereof that have been allotted to the State of Punjab for public distribution in border areas during the last three years till date;

(b) the total quantity of foodgrains which have actually been made available in these areas for distribution; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) to (c) Under the joint responsibility of implementing the Public Distribution System, Central Government makes bulk allocation of foodgrains to States/UTs. Its distribution to different sections of people in different areas in State is done by respective State Government/UT Administration. The total quantities allocated to Punjab during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 are as under:—

(In '000 MT)

YEAR	WHEAT	Allocation of RICE
1994-95	210.00	17.25
1995-96	155.00	16.65
1996-97	121.00	18.00

आपदाग्रस्त क्षेत्रों के लिए आवंटित किए गए खाद्यान्न

873. श्री नरेन्द्र मोहन: क्या नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को ऐसी कोई शिकायत मिली है कि कुछ राज्यों में आपदाग्रस्त क्षेत्रों के लिए जो चावल और खाद्यान्न आवंटित किए गए थे वे जनता तक नहीं पहुंचे हैं और उन्हें बीच रास्ते में ही बेच दिया गया;

(ख) क्या इस बात को सुनिश्चित करने हेतु अलग से कोई नियम और कानून है कि राहत कार्यों हेतु जो सामग्री एकत्र की जाती है वह आपदाग्रस्त क्षेत्रों तक पहुंचे और पीड़ित व्यक्तियों को प्राप्त हो; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या इन कानूनों को कार्यान्वित किया जा रहा है?

खाद्य मंत्री और नागरिक पूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री (श्री देवेन्द्र प्रसाद यादव): (क) से (ग) कृषि और सहकारिता विभाग, कृषि मंत्रालय से प्राप्त सूचना के अनुसार उन्हें आंध्र प्रदेश में तूफान राहत के लिए मिली सामग्री के दुरूपयोग के बारे में एक शिकायत प्राप्त हुई है। प्राकृतिक आपदाओं की स्थिति में राहत तथा पुनर्वास उपाय संबंधित राज्य सरकार द्वारा अपने राज्य राहत मैनुअल में दिए गए प्रावधानों के आधार पर किए जाते हैं।

Huge Margin of Profit of Retailers on Maximum Retail Price Quoted Items

874. SHRIMATI ANANDIBEN JETHABHAI PATEL:
SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the mixmum retail price of commodities are marked on the packets under the provisions of the Act;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the maximum retail price so quoted is more than 30% to 50% of the sale price by the retailers and a huge margin is left to the retailers; and

(c) if so, whether Government have made any effort to study this problem and propose to amend the existing provisions of the Act in order to save the consumers being looted by the retailers selling the goods at the maximum retail price of the commodities?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) The Packaged Commodities Rules, 1977 require that retail sale price of a commodity sold in packaged form be printed thereon in the following format; "Maximum or Max. retail price.... inclusive of all taxes or in the form MRP Rs....incl. of all takes."

(b) and (c) MRP is the maximum price at which the product can be sold. The actual sale price could be less than MRP due to various factors.

No information regarding very large margins accruing to retailers has come to the notice of the Government. The Government is however considering the issue in consultation with concerned groups and organisations with a view to serve better the interests of consumers.

Rejection of New Rice Supply Policy by Government of Andhra Pradesh

875. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh has rejected the new rice supply scheme proposed by the Union Government through public distribution system;

(b) if so, the reasons advanced by that Government; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b and (c) Do not arise.

Enhancing the Foodgrains Quota to Orissa

876. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Orissa has requested to provide adequate quantum of foodgrains under Public Distribution System network to meet the additional requirement of foodgrains in view of the serious drought situation prevailing in that State;

(b) if so, the estimated requirement and demand made by the State compared to the requirement in the normal situation;